

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ROME 15359 01 OF 02 081006Z

17/43

ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-06 SWF-01 OES-04 PA-02 PRS-01

USIE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 SP-02 SAM-01 AID-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /073 W
----- 034662

P 061510Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7952

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ROME 15359

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP, IT

SUBJ: WFC - SPEECH BY SECRETARY BUTZ

PASS USINFO, ATTN: BRAKE

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR FAS/INFORMATION DIV., AND JOEL MCDAVID,
COMM

BELOW IS THE TEXT OF THE SPEECH GIVEN BY SECRETARY BUTZ
BEFORE THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE TODAY.

QUOTE. THE NUMBER ONE RESPONSIBILITY OF THIS CONFERENCE IS
TO MOVE THE WORLD TOWARD A HIGHER LEVEL OF FOOD PRODUCTION.
ITS SUCCESS IN GUIDING AND STIMULATING FARMERS TO GROW MORE
FOOD WILL BE THE ULTIMATE MEASURE OF ITS ACHIEVEMENT -- THE
YARDSTICK BY WHICH HISTORY WILL APPRAISE OUR EFFORTS OF THE
NEXT FEW YEARS.

THERE ARE OTHER SUBJECTS TO CONSIDER, OF COURSE. THERE
IS THE MATTER OF FOOD RESERVES. THERE IS THE QUESTION OF
EMERGENCY AID. THERE IS THE SUBJECT OF IMPROVED STORAGE,
HANDLING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD. THERE IS THE NEED FOR FURTHER
LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE IN FOODSTUFFS AND IN GOODS THAT ARE
EXCHANGED FOR FOODSTUFFS. THESE, HOWEVER, ARE ISSUES THAT
ARISE AFTER FOOD IS PRODUCED -- NOT BEFORE. WE ARE NOT HERE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ROME 15359 01 OF 02 081006Z

TO TALK ABOUT WHAT TO DO WITH LESS FOOD. WE ARE HERE TO TALK

ABOUT WHAT TO DO WITH MORE FOOD.

THERE IS ENORMOUS OPPORTUNITY TO PRODUCE MORE. DURING THE TWO DECADES OF THE 1950'S AND 1960'S, GRAIN YIELDS INCREASED 63 PERCENT IN DEVELOPED NATIONS AND ONLY 32 PERCENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. YET MANY OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE ENORMOUS POTENTIAL, AND MANY ARE MAKING GREAT PROGRESS IN IMPROVING YIELDS AND BUILDING THE RURAL INSTITUTIONS NECESSARY FOR CONTINUED ADVANCEMENT.

MANY OF THE ANSWERS TO WORLD FOOD PROBLEMS IN THE FUTURE -- 10 OR 20 OR 50 YEARS FROM NOW -- LIE IN YET UNKNOWN METHODS THAT AWAIT DISCOVERY IN LABORATORY AND TEST PLOT. SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENTS WILL COME FROM SUCH RESEARCH, AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST.

MUCH, HOWEVER, REMAINS TO BE DONE IN EMPLOYING THE TECHNOLOGY WE ALREADY HAVE. WE HAVE AT HAND TREMENDOUS KNOWLEDGE -- OF PLANT AND ANIMAL BREEDING AND NUTRITION, DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL, MECHANIZATION, FARM MANAGEMENT, MARKETING AND OTHER FARM SCIENCES. MERELY STOPPING UNNECESSARY WASTE IN HARVESTING AND STORAGE AND LOSSES TO INSECTS AND OTHER PESTS WOULD BUY THE WORLD A LARGE AMOUNT OF TIME AS WE SEEK TO INCREASE PRODUCTION.

FINALLY, AS WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO INCREASING PRODUCTION, THERE IS THE CONTINUING CHALLENGE OF IDENTIFYING THOSE FACTORS THAT CAUSE A FARMER TO PRODUCE. FARM PRODUCTION IS NOT A CONSTANT. THERE IS A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE IN THE WAY FARMERS UTILIZE THEIR PRODUCTIVE ABILITY. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, FROM REGION TO REGION, FROM FARM TO FARM, FROM SEASON TO SEASON -- THE HUMAN DIFFERENTIAL. IT IS CONSTLY TO PRODUCE FOOD -- COSTLY IN HUMAN EFFORT, IN CAPITAL INVESTMENT, AND INCREASINGLY IN THE PURCHASE OF PRODUCTION INPUTS. TO PRODUCE AT HIGH COST REQUIRES INCENTIVE.

IN MY COUNTRY, FARMERS RESPOND TO THE INCENTIVE OF PROFIT. THE OPPORTUNITY FOR FARMERS TO OWN AND OPERATE THEIR OWN FARMS IS AAN INCENTIVE. THE DESIRE FOR BETTER LIVING, A BETTER HOME, AND EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN IS AN INCENTIVE. PRIDE IN BEING A FARMER IS AN INCENTIVE. THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE IN THE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ROME 15359 01 OF 02 081006Z

PROGRESS OF COMMUNITY AND NATION IS AN INCENTIVE. IN MODERN SOCIETIES, THESE INCENTIVES ARE CLOSELY RELATED TO THE ABILITY TO EARN A FAIR RETURN FROM ONE'S INVESTMENT -- A DECENT REWARD FOR ONE'S LABOR.

I STRONGLY SUSPECT THAT THIS IS TRUE IN OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL AS MY OWN. I DO NOT PRETEND TO BE AN EXPERT IN THE WAYS OF OTHER NATIONS AND PEOPLES, BUT I ASK EACH OF YOU: IS IT

NOT TRUE THAT YOUR FARMERS RESPOND BEST WHEN THEY ARE
REWARDED WITH THE MEANS TO LIVE BETTER AND PROVIDE BETTER FOR
THEIR FAMILIES? CALL IT PROFIT. CALL IT BY ANOTHER NAME.
IT'S STILL A RESPONSE TO ECONOMIC REWARDS.

IN OUR OWN COUNTRY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN
INCREASED RETURNS FROM THE MARKET WILL RESULT IN SUBSTANTIALLY
LARGER PRODUCTION IN THE YEAR AHEAD. THE FREEING OF CROPLAND
FROM OUR FORMER SYSTEM OF PRODUCTION CONTROLS HAS ALREADY HAD
A GREAT IMPACT ON OUR AGRICULTURE. AS RECENTLY AS 1972, OUR
FARMERS WERE HOLDING OUT OF PRODUCTION, UNDER GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS,
ABOUT ONE HECTARE FOR EVERY FIVE HECTARES THAT WERE IN CROPS.
GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS HAVE RELEASED ALL OF THIS LAND AND FARMERS
HAD RETURNED WELL OVER HALF OF THIS "SET ASIDE" CROPLAND INTO
PRODUCTION BY 1974.

WE EXPECT MUCH ADDITIONAL LAND WILL BE PLANTED FOR HARVEST
IN 1975. THE INCENTIVE IS THERE IN THE FORM OF MARKET OPPORT-
TUNITY -- THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROFIT.

OF COURSE, THIS TAKES TIME. AT BEST, AN INCREASE IN PRODUCTION
REQUIRES MONTHS. OFTEN, IT REQUIRES YEARS. MEANTIME, PEOPLE
MUST EAT. IN A YEAR LIKE 1974, THE SUBJECT OF FOOD AID BECOMES
VERY IMPORTANT. THIS CONFERENCE WILL SPEND A GOOD DEAL OF
TIME ON THE QUESTION OF FOOD AID -- HOW BEST TO ADMINISTER IT
AND WHERE BEST TO ASSIGN THE RESPONSIBILITY.

THE UNITED STATES WELCOMES THE INCREASED ATTENTION THAT OTHER
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE GIVING TO THEIR OWN NATIONAL FOOD AID
PROGRAMS. WE APPLAUD THE FOOD PROGRAMS OF THE FAO AND
OTHER UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS. WE SUPPORT A FURTHER
BROADENING OF FOOD AID RESPONSIBILITY AMONG NATIONS AND INTER-
NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE UNITED STATES
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 ROME 15359 01 OF 02 081006Z

PROMISES TO INCREASE ITS OWN COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL FOOD AID.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ROME 15359 02 OF 02 062249Z

70

ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-06 SWF-01 OES-04 PA-02 PRS-01

USIE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 SP-02 SAM-01 AID-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 /073 W

----- 012740

P 061510Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7953

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ROME 15359

PASS USINFO, ATTN: BRAKE

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR FAS/INFORMATION DIV., AND JOEL MCDAVID, COMM

EVEN IN THIS YEAR OF SHORT SUPPLIES, AND BUDGET RESTRAINTS, THE UNITED STATES EXPECTS THAT TOTAL PROGRAMMING UNDER ITS P.L. 480 (FOOD FOR PEACE) PROGRAM WILL EXCEED THE VALUE LEVEL OF LAST YEAR. IN THE CURRENT YEAR, WE WILL BE SHIPPING MORE WHEAT AND MORE RICE THAN LAST YEAR, BUT LESS FEEDGRAINS AND VEGETABLE OILS, DUE TO AVAILABILITIES. THE UNITED STATES HAS RESPONDED TO WORLD NEEDS IN THE PAST. WE ARE DOING SO AGAIN IN THE CURRENT YEAR. WE ARE TRYING TO BE FLEXIBLE WITH THE PROGRAM. TO MEET REAL NEEDS -- IN A TIME WHEN SUPPLIES ARE TIGHT AND COSTLY.

THE OTHER SUBJECT THAT HAS COME TO THE FORE, ALONG WITH FOOD AID, IS THE QUESTION OF FOOD RESERVES. AS I HAVE ALREADY NOTED, THE BEST ASSURANCE OF FOOD SECURITY IS INCREASED PRODUCTION. WE CANNOT CONJURE A RESERVE OUT OF SOMETHING WE DON'T HAVE. TO LOCK AWAY A PART OF CURRENT SHORT FOOD SUPPLIES IN ORDER THAT THE FUTURE MIGHT BE MORE SECURE WOULD CALL FOR LESS CONSUMPTION THIS YEAR, HIGHER FOOD PRICES, AND MORE INFLATION. THESE ARE CONSEQUENCES THAT FEW NATIONS WOULD WISH TO ENTERTAIN AT THE PRESENT TIME.

OUR ATTITUDE ON FOOD RESERVES WAS OUTLINED BY PRESIDENT FORD
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ROME 15359 02 OF 02 062249Z

IN HIS SPEECH TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON SEPTEMBER 18.

HE SAID:

"TO INSURE THAT THE SURVIVAL OF MILLIONS OF OUR FELLOW MEN DOES NOT DEPEND UPON THE VAGARIES OF WEATHER, THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO JOIN IN A WORLD-WIDE EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE,

ESTABLISH, AND MAINTAIN AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF FOOD RESERVES. THIS SYSTEM WILL WORK BEST IF EACH NATION IS MADE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE RESERVES THAT IT WILL HAVE AVAILABLE."

THUS WE FAVOR AN INTERNATIONALLY COORDINATED BUT NATIONALLY HELD SYSTEM OF RESERVES. WE WILL COOPERATE IN REASONABLE INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO SUSTAIN FOOD RESERVES TO MEET EMERGENCIES. WE DO NOT FAVOR FOOD RESERVES OF A MAGNITUDE THAT WOULD PERPETUALLY DEPRESS PRICES, DESTROY FARMER INCENTIVES, MASK THE DEFICIENCIES IN NATIONAL PRODUCTION EFFORTS, OR SUBSTITUTE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES FOR COMMERCIAL TRADE.

IF A RESERVE SYSTEM IS TO SUCCEED, IT REQUIRES A FREE EXCHANGE OF ADEQUATE PRODUCTION, STOCKS, AND TRADE INFORMATION. IN FACT, SUCH AN EXCHANGE IS ESSENTIAL TO THE WHOLE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY IN THE WORLD. IF GRAIN PRODUCING NATIONS ARE TO SUCCEED IN MEETING WORLD NEEDS FOR BOTH TRADE AND AID, THEY MUST HAVE ADEQUATE INFORMATION ON THOSE NEEDS. IMPORTING NATIONS MUST SHARE INFORMATION ON FOOD STOCKS AND NEEDS. EXPORTING NATIONS MUST SHARE INFORMATION ON PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES.

WE MUST IMPROVE OUR METHODS OF FORECASTING WORLD CROP YIELDS, MEASURING GLOBAL HARVESTS, AND MONITORING NATIONAL FOOD NEEDS AND UTILIZATION. THE UNITED STATES STANDS READY TO MAKE SUCH INFORMATION READILY AVAILABLE, AND TO SHARE FREELY THE TECHNIQUES OF INFORMATION GATHERING AND FORECASTING.

THE EXCHANGE OF TECHNOLOGY -- REALLY THE SHARING OF PEOPLE, THEIR SKILLS, AND IDEAS -- CONTRIBUTES ENORMOUSLY TO WORLD UNDERSTANDING AS WELL AS MATERIAL BETTERMENT. THE 400 U.S. AGRICULTURALISTS ASSIGNED ANNUALLY TO OTHER COUNTRIES -- THE 1200 FARM SCIENTISTS WHO COME TO MY COUNTRY -- THE THOUSANDS OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN U.S. COLLEGES -- THESE REPRESENT AN INCALCULABLE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ROME 15359 02 OF 02 062249Z

CONTRIBUTION TO THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY, WHERE I WAS ASSOCIATED FOR SO MANY YEARS, WE HAVE HAD 100 TO 120 FOREIGN STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AT ANY GIVEN TIME. TODAY, WHEREVER I TRAVEL IN THE WORLD, I MEET FORMER PURDUE STUDENTS AT WORK IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES. TO AN EDUCATOR, NOTHING COULD BE MORE SATISFYING.

IN CLOSING, MAY I EMPHASIZE THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS GREAT CONFERENCE WILL REQUIRE SUSTAINED EFFORT -- THROUGH YEARS OF PLENTY AS WELL AS IN YEARS OF TIGHT SUPPLY. HISTORICALLY, THE CONCERN OVER HUNGER HAS TENDED TO WANE AND WAX WITH THE RISE AND FALL IN WORLD PRODUCTION. THE SUBJECT IS TOO SERIOUS FOR THAT; IT DESERVES CONTINUED HIGH-LEVEL EFFORT ON ALL FRONTS, AND I HOPE THAT THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF SUCH A SUSTAINED DRIVE.

THIS CONFERENCE MUST BE REMEMBERED AS A NEW DAWN OF HOPE AND
OPPORTUNITY IN MAN'S AGE-OLD STRUGGLE AGAINST HUNGER AND MAL-
NUTRITION. END QUOTE.

FOR RELEASE IN WASHINGTON.VOLPE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME15359
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740321-0741
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741166/aaaacdzf.tel
Line Count: 283
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AGR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 NOV 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <27 NOV 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WFC - SPEECH BY SECRETARY BUTZ PASS USINFO, ATTN: BRAKE
TAGS: OVIP, IT, (BUTZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005